

OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: HOUSING SERVICES



ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

Goal Statement

To promote safe, sanitary and affordable housing through homeowner education, counseling, and home rehabilitation & replacement in the unincorporated areas of Leon County.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

Economy

- As an approved Advisor Agency for the federally-funded Florida Hardest Hit Foreclosure Prevention Program, Leon County Government secured a Principal Reduction Loan for five Eligible Homeowners statewide, and financial relief for three Leon County eligible residents, which gives them time to find new or sufficient employment, avoid foreclosure, and stay in their homes. Leon County homeowners who are unemployed, underemployed, or have reduced income may be eligible for assistance through the Unemployment Mortgage Assistance Program or the Mortgage Loan Reinstatement Program.
- Leon County rehabilitated 26 low-income residents' homes, delivering on the County's goal of safe and sanitary homes, and providing work for multiple, local contractors. Rehabilitation work includes 20 new roofs.

HOUSING ASSISTANCE, COUNSELING & SOLUTIONS

- Housing Services ensures that extremely low, very low, low and moderate income level residents of Leon County are provided with safe and sanitary housing, and works to preserve the supply of affordable housing in the County. The division accomplishes these goals through programs that include down payment assistance to first-time homebuyers, foreclosure prevention assistance, principal reduction, home rehabilitation, and home replacement.
- Leon County continues its work as an Advisory Agency for the federally-funded, Florida Hardest Hit Foreclosure Prevention Program. Leon County residents can receive up to \$42,000, providing homeowners the time to find new or sufficient employment, so they may avoid foreclosure, and separately receive up to \$50,000 to lower their overall mortgage debt. These efforts also help mitigate property value loss for all of Leon County.
- Leon County continuously identifies opportunities to participate in federal and state programs beneficial to the community with respect to housing.
 - » More than 300 Leon County homeowners and prospective home buyers were educated on how to maintain a home and how to prevent foreclosure during the County's fall and spring Home Expos. During the home expo events, attendees also



LaCombe Home Replacement

participated in hands-on demonstrations, learning how to paint, pressure wash and perform minor roof repairs.

- » 57 first-time homebuyers purchased a home in Leon County through the Leon County Housing Finance Authority's Down Payment Assistance Program, funded in conjunction with Escambia Housing Finance Authority. Veterans are the only category of buyer for this program that will not have to be first-time buyers.
- » As a result of Leon County's participation in the implementation of a home owner association neighborhood revitalization project for low-income families, seniors, disabled, and Veteran home owners (Crown Ridge Estates), Leon County was presented with the "Best In Class" 2015 Achievement Award for its 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service.



Did You Know

To assist citizens with issues related to housing, Leon County Government procures grant funding from several federal & state institutions. During the last fiscal year, more than \$2.6 million dollars in grant funding for affordable housing has been accessed.

Contact Us

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www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Housing